Reminder-clean up is part of the competition. All tables need to be stacked and everything needs to be completely off the floor.

Natural Hair Design (District and State Levels Only) 2026

Virginia Beach Convention Center, Virginia Beach, Virginia

- ***Sack lunches need to be labeled with contestant number only and will be accepted at registration only**

March 9:Contest Orientation 4 p.m.
March 10: Contest 8 a.m.
Theme: Animal Kingdom

SkillsUSA Virginia State Leadership Conference and Skill Championships

There will be a mandatory meeting for the advisors and contestants on Friday,6April 4, 2025, in the seating section by the contest site. This will be the time for questions to be answered by the contest chairs**. All Resumes will be submitted at this time.**

Purpose

To evaluate each contestant's preparation for employment and to recognize outstanding students for excellence and professionalism in Natural Hair Design and Braids by challenging students to be creative stylists and practice technical skills.

Contest Description
Contestants will demonstrate their artistic and creative abilities to create a Natural Hair Design.

ELIGIBILITY
Open to active SkillsUSA members enrolled in the field of cosmetology cluster as the occupational objective

Reminders
• Contestants should report a few minutes early to the contest site with their name tag turned so that their contestant number is showing.
• The contest is not considered over until the area has been cleaned.
• Contestants must submit Resumes, one page go to www.skillsusava.org State Leadership Conference

Announcements for Resume Worksheet; the resume is worth 10% of the total contest score. Resumes should be turned in on Friday, April 4 during the contest orientation meeting.
• No cell phones or Flash Photography of any kind on the contest floor during the Contest (pictures and videos will be allowed after the contest).

CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS

White Dress Shirt with Black tie or Official SkillsUSA white polo shirt, black dress slacks, black socks, and black leather work or dress shoes or
White Dress Shirt or Official white polo top, black dress slacks or skirt, black socks, and black leather, work or dress shoes. Shoes should not exceed a 2-inch heel. These regulations refer to clothing items that are pictured and described at: www.skillsusastore.org Note: Contestants must wear their official contest clothing to the contest orientation meeting. If you have any questions please refer to the National SkillsUSA guidelines.

GENERAL CONTEST INFORMATION

- **Manikins –** All participants must bring the required manikins for the competition.
  **See the manikin list for specific manikins for each contest.*

- **Contestant Notebook –** Contestants are to prepare a notebook to present to the Chairperson at orientation. Contents of the notebook should include:
  - **Theme –** Animal Kingdom / Braid Design.
  - **Sketch –** An original hand-drawn sketch of your total concept should be framed and placed at your station.

- **Items Not Allowed –**
  - **Electric Stoves** -- Contestants will be disqualified if this item is used.
  - **Cell phones or other electronic devices** are ***NOT*** allowed in the competition area.

- **Talking –** No talking to other contestants, instructors, or audience members during the competition is allowed. Doing so may result in disqualification. If you have a question, raise your hand, and a sage or the competition chairperson will see to your needs.

- **Breaks –** Breaks will be given during the competition. Contestants are not allowed to leave the area except with a chaperone for restroom visits or emergencies. If a contestant gets sick during the competition and needs to leave the contest area, no extra time will be allotted.

- **Work Time –** You can begin the contest when the chairperson signals so and you must stop when time is called. Continuing to work will result in point deductions. All contestants must participate in all phases of the competition, including written (if applicable).

- Upon completion of the competition – **DO NOT Remove Manikins** from the **competition area until instructed to do so by the contest chairperson.**

- **Sanitation** – The contestant must disinfect and clean up their workstation/area, which includes a total breakdown of their workstation/area. 1 Trash Bag is required, no labeling is needed. ***THIS IS NOT STATE BOARD SANITATION*** *– Just what we are requiring for this competition.* Sanitation for this contest includes –
  - Sanitizing the workspace at the beginning,
  - Sanitizing the workspace at the end,
  - Items are not thrown on the floor throughout the competition, and
  - All used items go in the trash bag.
- Secondary contestants will compete against secondary and postsecondary will only compete against postsecondary.
- JUDGES DECISIONS ARE FINAL

EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS

Supplied by the Technical Committee
- Tables
- Timer/time-keeper
- All necessary information for the judges and tally committee.
  - NO electricity is furnished for this contest

Supplied by the Contestant (Supply List)

- Burmax : (2)needed to choose from “Whitney, Yolanda, or Camila” (do not cut). *Manikin cannot be pre-sectioned.
- Two separate mankins are needed
  Note: To purchase manikins, call Burmax 1-800-645-5118 Service Dept - Ask for a SkillsUSA discount
- Manikin Stand/Holder Tripod
- 1 Large Trash Bag for soiled linens/towels and such, no labeling needed
- First aid kit
- **KIT –**
  - Manikin stand
  - Hair ornaments and extensions
  - Hair product required for style, temporary only
  - Spray water bottle

- Towels
- Styling brushes, combs, hair/bobby pins, rubber bands etc.
- All products to perform Braiding and style

Scope of the Contest –

Segment 1: Natural Hair Design – Braiding (Style Duplication) Whitney or Yolanda Manikin

- **1 hour, 30 minutes**
- Whitney or Yolanda Manikin
- The contestant will duplicate a Natural Hair Braid design selected by the cosmetology technical committee.
- No hair extensions: only the manikins hair is allowed
- The finished style must resemble the picture preselected by the contest chairperson.
- Contestants must provide all working materials to complete the task.
- Use appropriate styling products to duplicate the hair design created by the competitor
- Demonstrate balance, proportion and form in the finished creative design.
- Show control of texture and control of hair direction in the finished design.
- Complete cleaning and disinfection of the work area and prepare for the next segment.
- Judges will score only the finished look in this segment.

Segment 2: Natural Hair Design – Braiding (Creative Freestyle Design) Whitney, Yolanda or Camila

Theme: Animal Kingdom

Develop a Natural Hair: Braiding Creative Freestyle Design-Extensions can be used Must be completed within a **2 hour** time limit.

- Whitney, Yolanda or Camila Manikin
- Contestants must provide all working materials to complete the design.
- The completed design must resemble the student-designed sketch.
- Develop a creative freestyle design including temporary hair color using the theme. The creative style should flow together for an all-over look. Note: Color should enhance the look but does not deter.
- Use appropriate styling products to duplicate the hair design created by the competitor
- Demonstrate balance, proportion and form in the finished creative design.

- Show control of texture and control of hair direction in the finished design.
- Incorporate current trends in hair color and Hair design.
- Ornaments, flowers, and hats will be allowed – However, at least 2/3 of the model's hair must be visible (No more than 1/3 of the hair may be covered).
- Follow all safety and sanitation procedures and always maintain a clean area.
- Judges will score only the finished look in this section.